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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,071	03/30/2004	Toshio Asano	008312-0309002	1311
909	7590	05/31/2005	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP			NGUYEN, HOANG V	
P.O. BOX 10500			ART UNIT	
MCLEAN, VA 22102			PAPER NUMBER	
			2821	

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/812,071

Applicant(s)

ASANO ET AL.

Examiner

Hoang V. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,7,8,11 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5,6,9,10,12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/30/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 2 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Asano et al (US 6,636,181 B2).

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C.

102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claim 1, Asano ‘181 (Figure 9, col 8, lines 5-65) discloses a high-frequency receiving unit comprising a casing 104 configured to incorporate a high-frequency circuit which receives a high-frequency signal and a signal processing circuit 119 which obtains at least one of a picture signal and a data signal from the received high-frequency signal; a display 105 disposed in an opening of the casing and configured to display an output of the signal processing circuit; and an antenna 109 configured to receive the high-frequency signal and to supply it to the high-frequency circuit, wherein the antenna is disposed in any one of a top surface, a bottom surface, a

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right surface, a left side surface and a back surface on the back side of an intermediate position for dividing the casing into two portions in a direction of depth.

Regarding claim 2, Asano '181 (Figures 1 and 9, col 8, lines 5-65) discloses a high-frequency receiving unit comprising a casing 104 configured to incorporate a high-frequency circuit which receives a high-frequency signal and a signal processing circuit 119 which obtains at least one of a picture signal and a data signal from the received high-frequency signal; a display 105 disposed in an opening of the casing and configured to display an output of the signal processing circuit; and a plurality of antennas 109 and 111 configured to receive the high-frequency signal and to supply it to the high-frequency circuit, wherein the plurality of antennas are disposed in any one of a top surface, a bottom surface, a right surface, a left side surface and a back surface on the back side of an intermediate position for dividing the casing into two portions in a direction of depth.

Regarding claim 15, the high-frequency receiving unit of Asano '181 would enable the method comprising the steps of receiving a high-frequency signal by an antenna 109 disposed in any one of a top surface, a bottom surface, a right surface, a left side surface and a back surface on the back side of an intermediate position for dividing the casing into two portions in a direction of depth; and producing a signal to be displayed on a display 105 from a high-frequency signal received by the antenna.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4, 7, 8, 11, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asano et al in view of Flint et al (US 2003/0222823 A1).

Regarding claim 4, Asano '181 discloses the claimed invention except that at least one of the plurality of antennas is disposed on the right side of an intermediate position for dividing the back portion of the casing into left and right portions and at least one of the plurality of antennas is disposed on the left side of the intermediate position. Flint (Figure 3) discloses a high-frequency receiving unit comprising a plurality of antennas 301 and 302 wherein one of the plurality of antennas is disposed on the right side of an intermediate position for dividing the back portion of the casing into left and right portions and at least one of the plurality of antennas is disposed on the left side of the intermediate position.

Regarding claim 7, as applied to claim 2, Figure 9 of Asano '181 shows that the casing 104 is constituted of a casing body configured to incorporate the signal processing circuit 119 and a display casing configured to incorporate the display 105 and to have a function that it can move with respect to the case body.

Regarding claim 8, as applied to claim 2, Figure 9 of Asano '181 shows that the antenna 109 is built in the casing 104.

Regarding claim 11, as applied to claim 2, Figure 4 of Flint shows that the antenna 401 is mounted on the outside of the casing.

Regarding claim 13, as applied to claim 2, Asano '181 discloses, among other features, a signal cable 110 connecting the antennas to the high-frequency circuit. Neither Asano '181 nor

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Flint explicitly mentions the use of a microstrip line to connect the antennas to the high-frequency circuit. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the microstrip configuration or the cable configuration to connect the antennas to the high-frequency circuit since either configurations are considered known equivalents in the antenna art and the selection of any of these known equivalents to connect the antenna components would be within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

Regarding claim 14, as applied to claim 2, Figure 9 of Asano '181 shows that the antenna is constituted of a plane antenna.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 3, neither Asano '181 nor Flint, either taken alone or in combination, fairly teaches, among other features, that the plurality of antennas are disposed in a plurality of surfaces of the casing.

Regarding claim 5, Asano '181 and Flint fails to explicitly mention, among other features, that the antennas are disposed at a distance of one quarter wavelength or more of the received signal from one another.

Regarding claim 6, Asano '181 and Flint fails to explicitly mention, among other features, that the antennas are disposed at a distance of 30 mm or more from one another.

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Regarding claims 9 and 10, Asano '181 and Flint fails further teaches, among other features, that the case is raised in a portion in which the antenna is built.

Regarding claim 12, neither Asano '181 nor Flint, either taken alone or in combination, explicitly mentions, among other features, that the at least one of the antennas is configured to able to move and has a function of varying an orientation of a radiant surface of the antenna or a distance between the antennas.

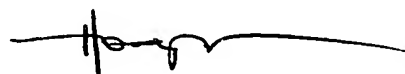
Correspondence

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoang V. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1825. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoang Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1825. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hvn
5/23/05



HOANG V. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER